

National Weather Service Storm Data and Unusual Weather Phenomena



February 1997 Time Local/ Path Length Path Number of Estimated Width Persons Damage **HAWAII** Hawaii County Kailua Kona 12 0400HST 0 0 Urban/Sml Stream Fld Heavy showers produced widespread minor flooding in the North Kona and South Kohala Districts, including the Waikoloa Village area. **Kauai County** Anahola 2145HST 2330HST Urban/Sml Stream Fld 12 Heavy showers produced minor flooding of roads and low-lying areas from Kilauea to Anahola to Wailua **Hawaii County** 2300HST 0 Honokaa Urban/Sml Stream Fld Isolated heavy showers caused minor flooding of streets and low-lying areas in the Hamakua District from Honokaa to Hakalau **Hawaii County** Naalehu to 27 0905HST 0925HST Tstm Wind/Hail Volcano 1/2 inch hail was reported by a weather spotter in Naalehu and by a NWS technician near Volcano Village.

An intense subtropical low approached the Hawaiian Islands from a position east of the Island of Hawaii during the 24th and 25th. High winds first developed at the lower elevations of Hawaii's Hilo District on the morning of the 24th with the greatest wind damage reported between 9 a.m. and 1 p.m. During this time, WSO Hilo recorded a peak wind of 59 mph, and north to northeast wind gusts estimated as high as 70 to 80 mph caused widespread damage throughout the Hilo and Puna Districts.

155 homes and 20 businesses had damaged roofs. One home was destroyed. More than 12,000 macademia trees were destroyed, and the surviving trees lost most of their buds and flowers, severely affecting the next crop. Commercial flower growers reported significant losses throughout the Hilo and Puna Districts. On the 25th, high winds damaged the roofs of several homes in the North Kona and South Kohala Districts. Total losses from the two day high wind event exceeded 4 million dollars.

At 9,000 feet and above, high winds combined with freezing rain and snow to cut off access to the volcano summits of Mauna Kea, Mauna Loa, and Haleakala for two and a half days. Ice accumulated to 3 inches in some areas.

On Maui, several trees and utility poles were downed and part of a roof blew off a house in the Iao Valley on the 25th

On Oahu and Kauai, short period swell produced surf of 8 to 12 feet along the northeast and east facing shores of the islands. Several beach parks were closed on Oahu and one lane of the Kamehameha Hwy was eroded by the high surf near Hauula.

Early on the 27th, a much weakened low level circulation moved to the south of Molokai, but deep moisture and an unstable airmass persisted over the east end of the state. Thunderstorms with hail and localized minor flooding occurred over the Kau and Puna Districts of the Island of Hawaii.



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Time Local/ Length Width Persons Damage
Location Date Standard (Miles) (Yards) Killed Injured Property Crops Character of Storm

HAWAII

Hawaii County

Pahoa 28 0015HST 0 0 Urban/Sml Stream Fld

Isolated thunderstorms produced rainfall rates of 0.93 inches in 30 minutes in Pahoa with minor flooding of roads and low lying areas.